



CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

July 30, 1998

H.R. 3796

A bill to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey the administrative site for the Rogue River National Forest and use the proceeds for the construction or improvement of offices and support buildings for the Rogue River National Forest and the Bureau of Land Management

*As ordered reported by the Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources
on July 29, 1998*

SUMMARY

H.R. 3796 would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange an administrative site comprising about five acres in the Rogue River National Forest and to acquire other administrative facilities through purchase or exchange.

CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3796 would result in an outlay savings of \$2 million in 1999, but would have no net effect on federal spending over the 1999-2003 period. Because the act would affect direct spending, pay-as-you-go procedures would apply. H.R. 3796 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act (UMRA) and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

ESTIMATED COST TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

The estimated budgetary impact of H.R. 3796 is shown in the following table. The costs of this legislation fall within budget function 300 (natural resources and the environment).

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars					
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003
CHANGES IN DIRECT SPENDING						
Estimated Budget Authority	0	0	0	0	0	0
Estimated Outlays	0	-2	1	1	a	0
a. Less than \$500,000.						

BASIS OF ESTIMATE

H.R. 3796 would authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to sell or exchange about five acres in the Rogue River National Forest that is currently used as an administrative site. As part of such an exchange, the act would authorize the Secretary to either accept cash equalization payments that exceed 25 percent of the value of the site, or acquire existing or future administrative facilities and improvements in exchange for conveying the site. The act provides that any proceeds from sale or exchange of the site be deposited into an existing fund in the Treasury and that the funds be available, until expended, for the construction or improvement of offices and support buildings for combined use by the Forest Service and the Bureau of Land Management.

Based on information from the Forest Service, CBO estimates that enacting H.R. 3796 could result in additional offsetting receipts from sale of the federal administrative site of about \$2 million in fiscal year 1999. CBO estimates that the Forest Service would spend, without further appropriation, any receipts from a sale of the site to construct or improve other facilities on federal land. Therefore, we estimate that the net effect on direct spending would be zero over the 1999-2003 period.

PAY-AS-YOU-GO CONSIDERATIONS

The Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act sets up pay-as-you-go procedures for legislation affecting direct spending or receipts. Under the Balanced Budget Act of 1997, proceeds from a nonroutine asset sale may be counted for purposes of pay-as-you-go scorekeeping only if the sale would entail no net financial cost to the government. Selling the Rogue River administrative site would not entail a net financial cost; therefore, the proceeds would be counted for pay-as-you-go purposes.

The net changes in outlays receipts that are subject to pay-as-you-go procedures are shown in the following table.

	By Fiscal Year, in Millions of Dollars										
	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008
Changes in outlays	0	-2	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Changes in receipts	Not applicable										

INTERGOVERNMENTAL AND PRIVATE-SECTOR IMPACT

H.R. 3796 contains no intergovernmental or private-sector mandates as defined in the UMRA and would have no significant impact on the budgets of state, local, or tribal governments.

PREVIOUS CBO ESTIMATE

On June 2, 1998, CBO prepared a cost estimate for H.R. 3796 as ordered reported by the House Committee on Resources on May 20, 1998. This version of H.R. 3796 is virtually identical to the House version, and the estimated costs are the same.

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